

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 DLOS-04 SAL-01 EB-07 COME-00

INT-05 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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----- 046896

R 031045Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EFIS, RO, XN

SUBJECT: US-ROMANIAN DRAFT FISHERIES AGREEMENT

REF: A. BUCHAREST 1619 B. BUCHAREST 0577

1. SUBJECT AGREEMENT WAS RENEGOTIATED IN LATE NOVEMBER
1975 WITH EXPECTATION THAT IT WOULD BE SIGNED AND IN
FORCE BY DECEMBER, OR JANUARY AT LATEST. FOR REASONS
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OF THEIR OWN GOR CHOSE TO DELAY SIGNING UNTIL NOW. IN
THE MEANTIME, H.R. 200, FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGE-
MENT ACT OF 1976, HAS NOW BEEN PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES OF

CONGRESS AND SENT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR SIGNATURE. IF SIGNED THIS ACT WILL, INTER ALIA, PRECLUDE OUR ENTERING INTO FISHERIES AGREEMENTS WHICH ARE NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH STRICT PROVISIONS OF THE ACT. THE PRESENT DRAFT US-GOR AGREEMENT DOES NOT MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS. FOR THE TIME BEING, THEREFORE, THERE COULD BE NO US-ROMANIAN FISHERIES AGREEMENT.

2. UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NEW LAW, WE WILL BE PERMITTED TO NEGOTIATE FISHERIES AGREEMENTS WHICH DO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW, AND WHEN THE SITUATION IS SOMEWHAT MORE CLEAR THAN IT IS NOW WE WOULD CONSIDER MEETING WITH A DELEGATION FROM GOR TO DO THIS AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME IN THE FUTURE.

3. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR OCEANS AND FISHERIES AFFAIRS RIDGWAY CALLED IN ROMANIAN AMB BOGDAN APRIL 2 TO ALERT HIM TO THE PRESENT SITUATION, NOTING THAT THE NEW LAW HAD GONE THROUGH SIGNIFICANT REVISIONS IN HOUSE-SENATE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE IN PAST FEW WEEKS RESULTING IN FINAL VERSION WHICH, IF SIGNED, WOULD PRECLUDE SIGNING OF DRAFT US-GOR AGREEMENT. BUT SHE ALSO NOTED THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES STILL HAVE A VALID FISHERIES RELATIONSHIP IN ICNAF WHICH PROVIDES FRAMEWORK FOR REMAINDER OF 1976 AND, WE HOPE, WILL PROVIDE FOR INITIATING DISCUSSION FOR RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS AFTER END OF THIS YEAR. BOGDAN ASKED WHAT THIS MEANT IN PRACTICAL TERMS FOR ROMANIAN FISHERIES, ESPECIALLY THIS YEAR. WE REPLIED THAT IT SHOULD HAVE NO EFFECT FOR REMAINDER OF 1976 SINCE MOST RECENT COAST GUARD REPORTS SHOW THAT ROMANIAN FLEET HAS NOW TAKEN ITS ICNAF QUOTAS OFF US COAST AND SHOULD BE DEPARTING AREA.

4. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN GOR SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE PARAGRAPHS, AND TO NOTE OUR EXPECTATION THAT ROMANIAN FLEET WILL LEAVE AREA OFF US COAST NOW THAT 1976 ICNAF QUOTAS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

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5. DEPARTMENT WILL FORWARD TREATY PAPER FOR FUTURE USE WHEN NEW SUPPLY RECEIVED FROM GPO. KISSINGER

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